

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE |
| Hiraku Murayama et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 3736 |
| Application No.: 10/635,665 |) | Examiner: Jeffrey Gerben Hoekstra |
| Filed: August 7, 2003 |) | Confirmation No.: 8895 |
| For: GUIDE WIRE |) | |

DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANCE OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


Examiner Hoekstra telephoned the undersigned in the latter part of December 2009 to discuss the allowability of the present application. Examiner Hoekstra indicated that independent Claim 1 and the associated dependent claims are allowable. Examiner Hoekstra also stated that independent Claims 24, 28 and 42, as well as the associated dependent claims, would be allowable if amended to recite that the welded portion is located on a tapered portion of the guide wire. The undersigned authorized Examiner Hoekstra to amend independent Claims 24, 28 and 42 to include such a recitation.

Should any questions arise concerning this application, the undersigned requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: February 22, 2010

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